THOSE STANDOFFISH WORDS.

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME I GRADUATED FROM BEING IN CHARGE OF YOU AS A COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEMBER.
DID I THINK...THAT WE'D ALWAYS BE TOGETHER OR SOMETHING?

リバーシブル!

Reversible School Life

CH. 12 AT THE SAME HEIGHT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE

DICCA SUEMITSU

MORN-
ING.
チュン
チュン
Fwaa...
MORN-
ING.
SEE YOU
LATER...
YOU'RE
THE ONE
WHO'S UP
LATE, TOUMA.
YOU'RE
GONNA
BE LATE.
YOU'RE
UP EARLY,
SHUU-CHAN.
とととっ
よろ...
HEY!
WAIT!

YOU'RE FAR TOO OUT OF IT JUST BECAUSE TSUBAKI'S NOT IN CHARGE OF YOU ANYMORE.
YOU LOOK LIKE AN OLD GEEZER WHO'S DEPRESSED OVER LOSING A PET.
Your hair extension is coming off, and your whole body looks sloppy!!
しおしお…
U-UHH...
COME ON, TAKE OFF YOUR PAJAMA PANTS!

AH! YOU CAN'T DO THAT! TAKE OFF YOUR MALE UNDERWEAR, TOO!
I'LL DO THAT MYSELF!!

WHAT ABOUT YOUR UNDER-WEAR?
WAA!?

YEAH...
EVEN I'M SURPRISED.

BUT STILL, I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D LOSE THIS MUCH OF YOUR MORALE, SHUU-CHAN.

AND I HAD THOUGHT THAT I STILL HAD SOME WAY TO GO WHEN IT COMES TO CROSS-DRESSING..
YAEZAKI-SAN HAS ALWAYS LOOKED AFTER ME SINCE I TRANSFERRED HERE,
BUT WHY...? HE SAID THE REASON WHY HE WAS LEAVING ME ALONE WASN'T BECAUSE HE HATED ME...
THE FEELING THAT A GAPING HOLE HAS OPENED UP IN ME WON'T GET OUT OF MY HEAD.

There there
なでなで
なでり
YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BOY!
つんつん
つんっ
WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
WELL, WELL,
YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, SHUU-CHAN.

YOU'RE STILL JUST AN INNOCENT BOY WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HOW HE FEELS!
HUH!?

はっ
JUST WHAT DO YOU UNDER-STAND!?
I'M MORE EXPERIENCED THAN YOU AND I HAVE A FEELING FOR THIS STUFF, SO SOMEHOW OR OTHER I UNDER-STAND!♥
ううう

I'M ALSO FREE AFTER SCHOOL TODAY, SO COME BACK RIGHT AWAY, OKAY?
?? HUH? WHY...?

YOU'LL SEE AFTER YOU COME BACK!♥

I'M BACK!
Welcome back!
IF WE'RE GONNA CHAT, WE NEED STUFF TO SNACK ON, RIGHT?
どやっ
WHOA! WHAT'S WITH THIS MOUNTAIN OF SNACKS!
WHAT'S GOING ON!?
WHY? I CAME TO TALK.
WHAT DO YOU...
HUH? WHY ARE YOU HERE, TOO?
HEY! THANKS FOR HAVING ME OVER.
WE'RE HAVING A MEETING TO CHEER YOU UP AFTER YOU GOT DEPRESSED OVER TSUBAKI DISTANCING HIMSELF FROM YOU, SHUU-CHAN.

A MEET-ING!?
WHEN SOMEONE GETS DEPRESSED, THEY KEEP GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES GRUMBLING, RIGHT?
IT'S SOMETHING GIRLS DO ALL THE TIME,
AND IT KEEPS THEM TOTALLY STUCK AT A DEAD END.
Ahh, she's back to square one again. How many times is this?
INSTEAD OF DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT,
IT'D BE BETTER TO DISCUSS HOW YOU SHOULD MAKE THINGS BETTER, RIGHT?
THEREFORE, THIS IS A MEETING FOR YOU TO WHINE ABOUT IT!
HUH, SO YOU HAVE A PRETTY SYSTEMATIC WAY OF THINKING ABOUT THINGS, TOUMA...
Ohh
WELL, HE'S JUST REPEATING WHAT I SAID.
DON'T TELL HIM!
Don't do things you're not used to
I see.

I THINK IT'S GOOD TO GRUMBLE SO YOU CAN FACE FORWARD.
そぞ
SIMPLY BLURT IT OUT AND YOU'LL QUICKLY FEEL RELIEVED!
BUT THAT WAY OF THINKING ISN'T BAD, RIGHT?
INSTEAD OF ALWAYS HANGING YOUR HEAD WHILE SAYING STUFF LIKE YOU FEEL BAD ABOUT MAKING US LISTEN TO YOUR COMPLAINTS, YOU SHOULD RAISE YOUR HEAD UP.
I KNOW THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU GET DEPRESSED, BUT CONTINUING TO BE DEPRESSED IS STILL PAINFUL.
YOU'RE MY ROOM-MATE,
SO IT'S PAINFUL SEEING YOU LIKE THAT, TOO.
YOU GUYS...
PLUS,

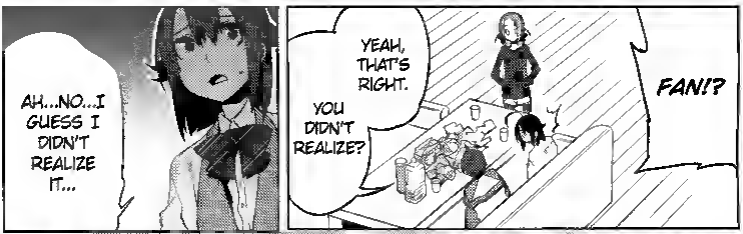
YOU HELPED ME OUT BEFORE, SHUU-CHAN...
IT'S NOT LIKE THIS IS REPAYMENT FOR THAT, BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT ALL BY YOURSELF,
すっ…
OKAY?
YEAH...

AND SO!
RIGHT!
LET'S THINK ABOUT WHY TSUBAKI IS DISTANCING HIMSELF FROM SHUU-CHAN!
HUH!? ALL OF A SUDDEN!?
Waaa!

WELL...I'M WORRYING ABOUT IT BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW WHY...
Why are you so ecstatic about it?
Isn't it better than being gloomy?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEN HOW ABOUT WE THINK ABOUT IT FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE?

TRY REMEMBERING WHAT TSUBAKI HATES WHILE THINKING ABOUT HIS UPBRINGING.
もぐもぐ
HIS UPBRING-ING...
HM... HMM...
HIS FATHER ABANDONED HIM AND HIS MOTHER...
AND HE'S SOMEONE WHO ONLY USES HIS LIMITED BEAUTY...
GUYS WHO GET CLOSE TO HIM JUST BECAUSE OF HOW HE LOOKS ...?
Correct!
OHH! SO YOU DO UNDERSTAND.
Shuu Kaidou

AS EXPECTED OF ONE OF TSUBAKI'S FANS.
HUH!?


FAN!?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU DIDN'T REALIZE?
AH...NO...I GUESS I DIDN'T REALIZE IT...

THIS MAY BE SUDDEN, BUT I ALSO THINK YOU'RE A GOOD GUY, SHUU-CHAN.
AND TSUBAKI SHOULD THINK THAT WAY, TOO.

BUT UP UNTIL NOW, TSUBAKI'S ENCOUNTERED "GUYS WHO TRY TO POSSESS HIM AS A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER",
SO I THINK HE WAS UNEASY THAT YOU COULD END UP LIKE THAT SINCE YOU'VE GOTTEN CLOSER TO HIM.
A BEAU-TIFUL... FLOWER?

I MEAN THE GUYS WHO PROFESS THEIR LOVE BY JUST LOOKING AT WHAT'S ON THE OUTSIDE INSTEAD OF LOOKING AT WHAT'S ON THE INSIDE.
Ahh! These guys are so annoying!
But this is my job, so just put up with it.
AHH...

I THINK OF THE DEFINITION OF LOVE AS WISHING FOR THE ONE YOU LOVE TO BE HAPPY.
THE QUESTION IS, JUST WHAT IS LOVE?
LOVE...

IT'S TRUE THAT I'VE BEEN DRAWN TO YAEZAKI-SAN BECAUSE I THINK OF HIM AS REALLY PRETTY AND CUTE.
WELL...

BUT IF THAT CAUSES SOMEONE TO FALL IN LOVE WITH AND GET CLOSER TO HIM, TSUBAKI'S ALSO AT FAULT FOR HARSHLY PUSHING THEM AWAY.
THAT'S TSUBAKI'S WEAPON, AND HIS WAY OF DOING THINGS IS TO COAX YOU WITH THAT TO PERSUADE YOU TO DO SOMETHING THAT SERVES HIS INTERESTS.
WELL OF COURSE YOU WOULD.
HAHA...

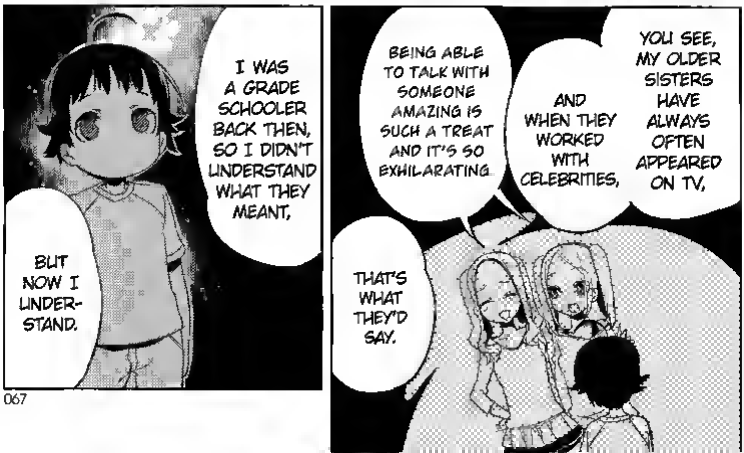
YOU'RE DEPRESSED OVER TSUBAKI DISTANCING HIMSELF FROM YOU, RIGHT?
Y-YEAH.
SO!
SO DOES THAT MEAN THAT COMES FROM
"I WANT TO EMBRACE YOU!!" OR "I LIKE YOU!!" OR "GO OUT WITH ME!!"
THOSE KINDS OF FEELINGS FOR TSUBAKI?
IN OTHER WORDS, ARE THEY FEELINGS FROM A BROKEN HEART?
EH... HMM...
What's with that cosplay?
Haha
WELL, IT MIGHT NOT ONLY BE STUFF LIKE THAT...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ONLY?

EVEN I'D LIKE TO GO OUT WITH SOMEONE CUTE,
LIKE AOI-CHAN SAID BEFORE
ME BEING YAEZAKI-SAN'S FAN FITS ME PERFECTLY.
BUT,

HE DOES THINGS I CAN'T DO, TEACHES ME THINGS, AND SEES THINGS THROUGH.
HE EVEN FACES PAINFUL AND UNFORGIVABLE THINGS HEAD ON.

AT FIRST, I THOUGHT OF HIM AS CUTE LIKE I WOULD A GIRL, AND I STILL THINK THAT WAY,
BUT IT'S MORE THAN JUST THAT
BECAUSE HE'S A GUY.

SO I WAS ALSO HAPPY THAT AN AMAZING PERSON HELPED ME OUT WITH THAT, AND IT WAS EXCITING.
AND FUN,
CHANGING MYSELF WAS INTERESTING
I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT HE'S AN AMAZING PERSON MORE AND MORE
AND EVEN IF SOMEONE LIKE THAT IS WITH ME BECAUSE OF HIS JOB I'M HAPPY THAT HE WAS LOOKING AT ME...


BUT NOW I UNDER-STAND.
I WAS A GRADE SCHOOLER BACK THEN, SO I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY MEANT,
THAT'S WHAT THEY'D SAY.
BEING ABLE TO TALK WITH SOMEONE AMAZING IS SUCH A TREAT AND IT'S SO EXHILARATING.
AND WHEN THEY WORKED WITH CELEBRITIES,
YOU SEE, MY OLDER SISTERS HAVE ALWAYS OFTEN APPEARED ON TV,

EVEN IF YOU'RE TOGETHER ON A PROFESSIONAL BASIS,
IT'S A JOY TO BE ABLE TO TALK WITH SOMEONE WHO ACHIEVES A LOT WITH THEIR BODY AND MIND BY THEMSELVES.
IT'S SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I GUESS

DO YOU RESPECT TSUBAKI?
RESPECT...
I SEE. YEAH...

I'M SURE THAT'S IT.
I SEE...
SO YOU DO UNDERSTAND, SHUU-CHAN.
HUH?

A FEW DAYS LATER
I'M SHUU KAIDOU, AND I'LL BE STARTING AS A COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEMBER TODAY.
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わ
あ
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!
NO, NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
I...
I'M STILL INEXPERIENCED, BUT I'LL GIVE IT ALL I'VE GOT, SO THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!
KAIDOU-KUN!? WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

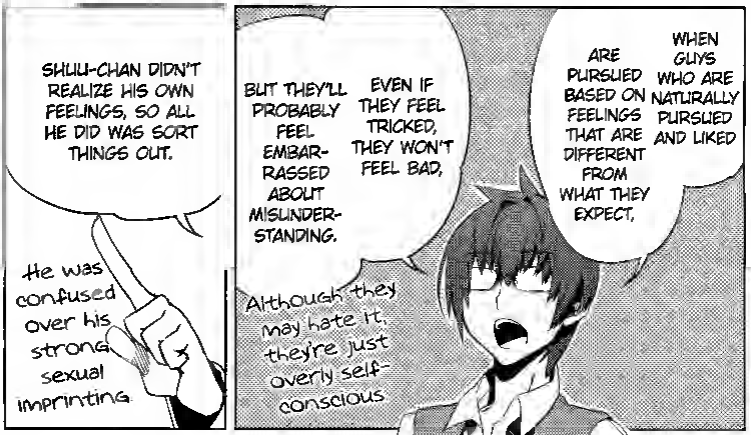
I WANTED TO TRY STANDING AT THE SAME VIEWPOINT AS YOU, YAEZAKI-SAN.
EVEN IF IT'S NOT COMPLETELY THE SAME, AT LEAST AT THIS SCHOOL, I WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU SEE AT THE SAME HEIGHT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
AT THE SAME HEIGHT...
SENSEI! THESE TWO ARE TALKING ABOUT SOMETHING THAT MAKES NO SENSE, SO LET'S LEAVE THEM BE!
ALL RIGHT, THEN WE'LL TALK LATER.
HUH!? YOU'RE THE ADVISER, KUGAYAMA-SAN!?
I didn't notice on the application
THEY HAD A HARD TIME FINDING SOMEONE CAPABLE, SO I'M DOING THIS, TOO.♥

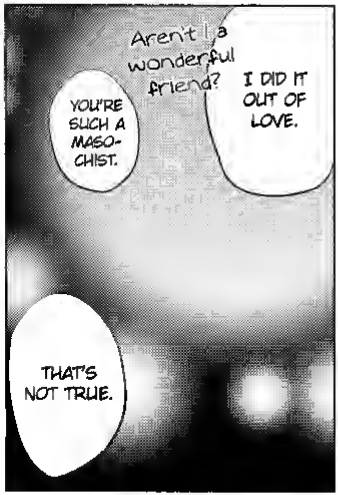
YAEZAKI-SAN, SORRY FOR DOING THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN...
IT'S OKAY...
AFTER YOU STOPPED BEING IN CHARGE OF ME, I PUT MY FEELINGS IN ORDER.
IN THE END, IT WAS FUN BEING WITH YOU,
AND I THOUGHT IT WAS SO AMAZING HOW YOU COULD DO SO MUCH I COULDN'T.
SO I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I WANT TO BE TO YOU,
.....
AND MY ANSWER WAS THAT I SIMPLY WANT TO BE YOUR FRIEND.

I THOUGHT ABOUT WANTING TO HANG OUT AND TALK WITH YOU.
EVEN WITH IT HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH OUR WORK OR POSITIONS, AND EVEN IF YOU CROSS-DRESS OR NOT,
AM I BEING A BOTHER?
HAHA, NO...
...I SEE.
YOU'RE NOT BEING A BOTHER.

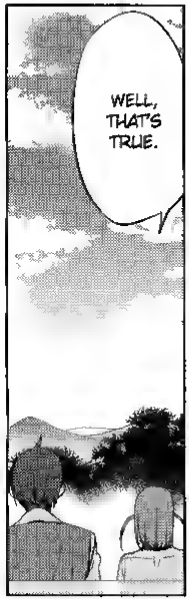
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, SIR.
GOOD, GOOD.
We did it.
Good work!
BUT WHY DID YOU DO ALL THIS?
TSUBAKI'S AWARE THAT HE'S NATURALLY POPULAR, RIGHT?

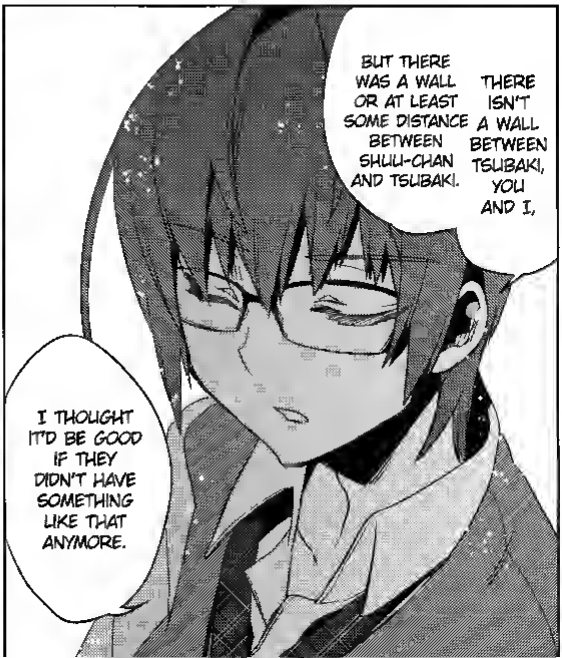
MOST OF THOSE WHO HAVE GOTTEN CLOSE TO HIM HAVE BEEN POSSESSIVE AND WERE LOOKING FOR "LOVE",
You're trying to get your hands on me just because of how I look?
No thank you!
Ah! I like you based on what's on the inside, so
BUT HE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT SHUU-CHAN'S AFFECTION TOWARDS HIM WAS OUT OF "RESPECT".

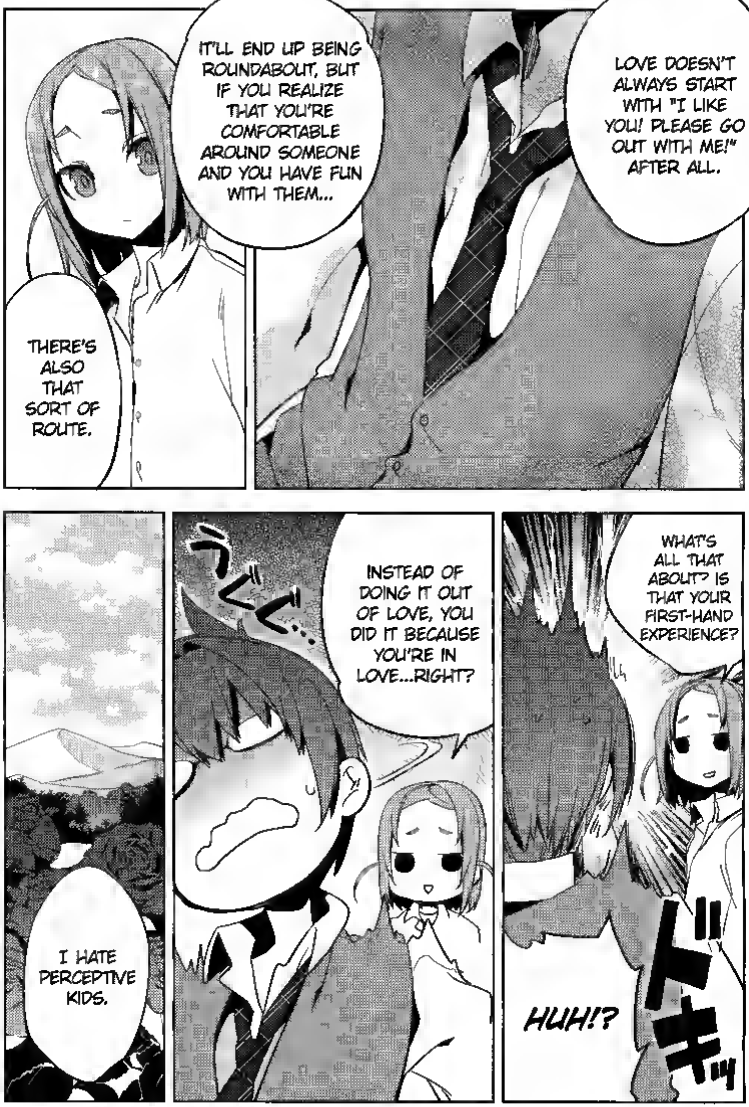

WHEN GUYS WHO ARE NATURALLY PURSUED AND LIKED ARE PURSUED BASED ON FEELINGS THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT THEY EXPECT,
EVEN IF THEY FEEL TRICKED, THEY WON'T FEEL BAD,
BUT THEY'LL PROBABLY FEEL EMBARRASSED ABOUT MISUNDERSTANDING.
Although they may hate it, they're just overly self-conscious
SHUU-CHAN DIDN'T REALIZE HIS OWN FEELINGS, SO ALL HE DID WAS SORT THINGS OUT.
He was confused over his strong sexual imprinting

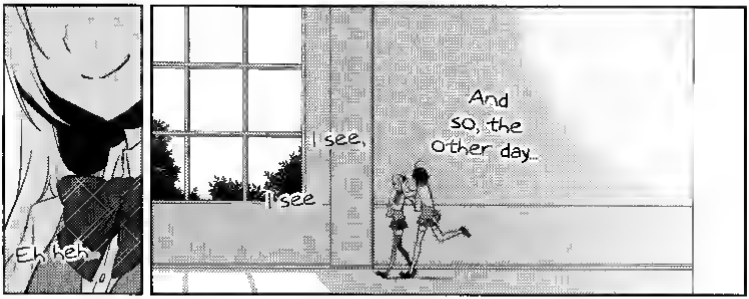

Aren't I a wonderful friend?
I DID IT OUT OF LOVE.
YOU'RE SUCH A MASO-CHIST.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

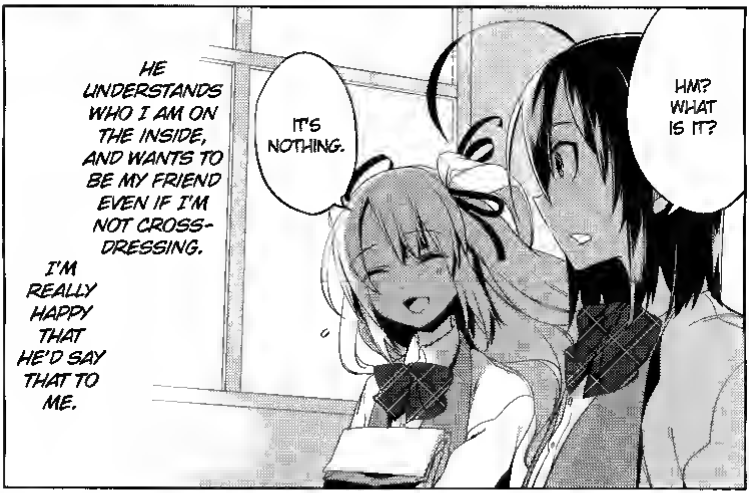
BOTH OF THEM ARE MY FRIENDS, SO IT'S BETTER FOR THEM TO STAY ON GOOD TERMS.
HOW WISE OF YOU.


WELL, THAT'S TRUE.


THERE ISN'T A WALL BETWEEN TSUBAKI, YOU AND I,
BUT THERE WAS A WALL OR AT LEAST SOME DISTANCE BETWEEN SHUU-CHAN AND TSUBAKI.
I THOUGHT IT'D BE GOOD IF THEY DIDN'T HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT ANYMORE.


LOVE DOESN'T ALWAYS START WITH "I LIKE YOU! PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME!" AFTER ALL.
IT'LL END UP BEING ROUNDABOUT, BUT IF YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE COMFORTABLE AROUND SOMEONE AND YOU HAVE FUN WITH THEM...
THERE'S ALSO THAT SORT OF ROUTE.
WHAT'S ALL THAT ABOUT? IS THAT YOUR FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE?
ドキッ
HUH!?
INSTEAD OF DOING IT OUT OF LOVE, YOU DID IT BECAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE...RIGHT?
うぐぐ…
I HATE PERCEPTIVE KIDS.


Eh heh
I see,
I see
And so, the other day...


HE UNDERSTANDS WHO I AM ON THE INSIDE, AND WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND EVEN IF I'M NOT CROSS-DRESSING.
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT HE'D SAY THAT TO ME.
IT'S NOTHING.
HM? WHAT IS IT?

I'M HAPPY.

...I SUPPOSE.

TO BE CONTINUED

OUR WORRIES, OUR COMMUNICATION AND US START TO MOVE FORWARD.

Reversible
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